



1F 3731

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application

Inventor(s): Zucherman et al.
Appln. No.: 10/037,236
Confirm. No.: 6669
Filed: 11/09/2001
Title: INTER-SPINOUS PROCESS IMPLANT AND
METHOD WITH DEFORMABLE SPACER

PATENT APPLICATION

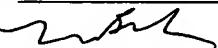
Art Unit: 3731

Examiner:

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Art Unit 3731, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 1-28-05


(Attorney Signature)

Melissa L. Basch, Reg. No. 56,159
Signature Date: 1-28-05

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Art Unit 3731
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- The present application is being/was filed after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the pre-official gazette waiver of 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) posted at: pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/idswouscopies.htm, copies of cited U.S. patents and publications are not enclosed. However, copies of cited foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), as still required, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted

by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

- The present application was filed prior to June 30, 2003. A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is enclosed, except for those items designated by an asterisk (*), which were previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application, from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, with an *Information Disclosure Statement* submitted in the parent application which complies with the September 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c), as allowed under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).
- If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).
- Attached copies of three European Search Reports dated 31.08.04.
- PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)*. Each item of information contained in the *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the *Information Disclosure Statement*.

This statement should be considered because:

- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**. This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:
 - (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
-- OR --
 - (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
 - (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
-- OR --
 - (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)**. Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

(1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

-- AND (*check at least one of the following*) --

(1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).
-- OR --
 (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

(1) It is being filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee;
-- AND --
(2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
-- AND --
(3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Fee Authorization. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

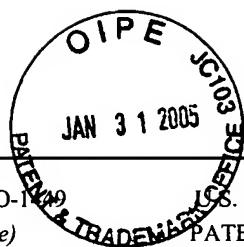
FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: Jan. 28, 2005

By: 

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Reg. No. 56, 159

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Form PTO-1449 (Substitute) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				Attorney Docket Number KLYC-01056US8	Serial/Patent Number 10/037,236
Information Disclosure Statement BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Applicant/Patent Owner Zucherman et al.	
				Filing/Issue Date 11/09/2001	Group Art Unit 3731

U.S. PATENTS

Examiner Initial		Patent Number	Issue Date	First Named Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date

U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initial		Patent Application Publication Number	Publication Date	Applicant

PENDING U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initial		Application Number	Filing Date	First Named Inventor	Petition to Expunge? Yes No

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Trans- lation Yes No
		FR 2 724 554	03/22/1996	France	A61B	17/70	
		FR 2 722 088	01/12/1996	France	A61B	17/70	
		FR 2 705 227	11/24/1994	France	A61F	2/44, 2/46	
		GB 780,652	08/07/1957	Great Britain	A61F		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include author (if any), title, publisher and place of publication, date and pertinent pages)

Examiner	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*1 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN /, filed , 20, relied on under 35 USC §120.

*2 = Copy not submitted because it was submitted in prior application SN /, filed , 20, relied on under 35 USC §120.

REMARKS

The following Remarks are supplied as part of or in supplement to this *Information Disclosure Statement*.

STATEMENT

(Attachment to Information Disclosure Statement)
(Use only if required)

✓ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT each item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement*; or

— 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2). THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY HEREBY STATES THAT no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this *Information Disclosure Statement* was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

FLIESLER MEYER LLP

Date: 1-28-05

By: 
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